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BIOGRAPHIC SKETCH

CHINA

HUA Guofeng
December 1979

NAME: Hua Guofeng (Hua Kuo-feng) (5478/0948/6912) (pronounced huwah).

POSITION: Chairman, Chinese Communist Party, constitutionally Commander in Chief, People's Liberation Army, since October 1976; Chairman, Military Commission, Chinese Communist Party, since October 1976; Premier, State Council, since February 1976.

(e) SIGNIFICANCE: Hua belongs to the second generation of Chinese communist officials who have been career party functionaries. Not a theoretician, he has risen to prominence by presenting himself as a faithful follower of Mao Zedong; an emulator of Zhou Enlai; a proficient interpreter of policy; and a competent administrator.

A longtime specialist in agricultural affairs and, to a lesser extent, public security work, Hua has little background in foreign policy matters and military affairs. Although he is constitutionally Commander in Chief of China's armed forces, Hua has not taken an active role in military affairs. He is pursuing the pragmatic policies promoted by Zhou Enlai and Deng Xiaoping and is apparently willing to let those more knowledgeable than himself exercise their expertise and provide guidance.

(e) POLITICS: In contrast to the deification of Mao, Hua's regime has emphasized collective leadership. The relationship between Hua and Deng Xiaoping has apparently coalesced. Both appear to be functioning well, and even amicably, in their respective roles. Although Hua's control over the government is probably growing stronger, he surely realizes he lacks the wide-based civil and military support commanded by Deng. Deng has become a symbol for the popular modernization programs currently being pursued. Hua began to reinstitute many of these programs after he assumed the chairmanship in October 1976. Apparently, both men agree on the general direction of China's economic and military development and, it seems likely, they are working in tandem. While the forceful Deng provides the leadership needed to achieve interim modernization goals, Hua will have the chance to develop his own skills, consolidate his base of support, and provide the stability necessary for China to achieve its long-range modernization objectives.



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~~(C/NOPORN)~~ PERSONAL DATA: Hua was born in 1920 in Shanxi Province. Although he is married, Hua has declined to answer questions relating to his personal life. He has at least two children. During his recent trip to Europe, Hua was described as intelligent and capable of rapidly assimilating information. Hua has enormous energy; he is able to work long hours into the night with only occasional catnaps between appointments. He speaks heavily accented Mandarin Chinese.

~~(C)~~ CAREER:

- 1936- - Probably joined the Chinese Communist Party.
- 1955-1957 - Secretary, Xiangtan County Party Committee, 1955. Elected to the Hunan Province Party Committee, 1956. Director, Hunan Cultural and Education Staff Office, October 1956-March 1957.
- 1958-1966 - Vice Governor of Hunan Province, 1958-66. Vice Chairman Hunan Scientific and Technical Work Committee 1958-1959. Secretary, Hunan Party Committee, 1959-1966. Elected delegate for Hunan to 3d National People's Council, 1964.
- 1967-1969 - Appointed Vice Chairman, Preparatory Group, Hunan Provincial Revolutionary Committee, 1967; elected Vice Chairman, Hunan Provincial Revolutionary Committee, 1968; elected to Presidium, 9th CCP/CC, 1969.
- 1970-1973 - Acting Chairman, Hunan Provincial Revolutionary Committee, July 1970. Identified as Deputy Political Commissar, Hunan Military District, August 1970; identified as acting head, Hunan CCP Core Group, December 1970; elected 1st Secretary, Hunan Provincial CCP Committee, December 1970. Served in Beijing in an unknown capacity, from at least November 1971 to November 1972. Returned to Hunan Province and identified as Political Commissar, Guangzhou Military Region, November 1972; identified as 1st Political Commissar, Hunan Military District, February 1973; reelected to the 10th CCP/CC, August 1973.
- 1976-Present - Identified as Acting Premier, State Council, February 1976; confirmed as Premier, April 1976. Appointed 1st Vice Chairman CCP/CC, April 1976. Appointed Chairman, CCP, and

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constitutionally Commander in Chief, People's Liberation Army, October 1976. Appointed Chairman, Military Commission, CCP, October 1976. Headed official delegation to Romania, Yugoslavia, and Iran, September 1978. Headed official delegation to France, West Germany, Great Britain, and Italy, November 1979.

PREPARED BY: DB-2B4, DIA

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